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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/076,382	02/14/2002	Nikhil Awasthi	4366-51	1364

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EXAMINER
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MARTIN, NICHOLAS A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2154

DATE MAILED: 04/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/076,382

**Applicant(s)**

AWASTHI, NIKHIL

**Examiner**

Nicholas Martin

**Art Unit**

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 February 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-42 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-42 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 5/17/02 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2/14/02.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

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1. Claims 1-42 are presented for examination.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

3. The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

4. Claims 1-4, 10-11, 13-19, 25-32 and 38-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Reed et al. (hereinafter Reed), US 6,345,288.

5. As per claim 1, Reed teaches a method for processing a message received from a computational network, comprising:

receiving at least one network message, the network message comprising a header and at least one of a body and an attachment (Col. 27, lines 15-39; Col. 33, lines 3-13, lines 56-65; Col. 34, lines 4-10);

parsing the header and the at least one of a body and an attachment to locate predetermined types of information, including at least one intended network message recipient (Col. 33, lines 3-24, lines 50-65; Col. 52, lines 23-63).

assembling the predetermined types of information in at least one notification message, the at least one notification message having a smaller byte size than the at least one network message (Col. 52, lines 51-67; Col. 53, lines 1-28); and

forwarding the at least one notification message to the at least one intended network recipient (Col. 14, lines 43-57; Col. 53, lines 27-28).

6. As per claim 2, Reed teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the at least one network message is received by a server, the at least one intended recipient is associated with a client of the server (Col. 43, lines 5-14; Col. 106, lines 35-47), and further comprising:

storing the at least one network message in a central message store in the server accessible by a plurality of clients (Col. 34, lines 4-18; Col. 134, lines 31-67; Col. 135, lines 1-6).

7. As per claim 3, Reed teaches the method of claim 1, further comprising:

determining a value of a flag in the at least one network message (Col. 94, lines 55-63; Col. 99, lines 23-40); and

when the state has a predetermined value, resending the notification message after a predetermined time interval has elapsed (Col. 57, lines 23-48);

8. As per claim 4, Reed teaches the method of claim 2, further comprising:

at least one of removing the message from the central message store and changing a presentation parameter associated with the at least one network message when the at least one network message is viewed by a client (Col. 27, lines 28-65).

9. As per claim 10, Reed teaches the method of claim 1, wherein in the parsing step the predetermined types of information comprises a type of computational component associated with the at least one intended network message recipient, further comprising:

selecting a presentation parameter for the at least one network message based on the computational component type (Col. 15, lines 18-24; Col. 29, lines 28-46; Col. 38, lines 50-63).

10. As per claim 11, Reed teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the parsing step the predetermined types of information comprise at least one of terms, groups of terms, semantical relationships, pragmatical relationships, and syntactical relationships (Col. 5, lines 7-15; Col. 33, lines 3-24).

11. As per claim 13, Reed teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the at least one notification message comprises a source address of the network message (Col. 33, lines 8-9), a destination address of the network message (Col. 34, lines 7-10), a number of intended recipients of the network message (Col. 143, lines 1-13), a subject of the network message (Col. 54, lines 58-61), a priority of the network message (Col. 152, lines 51-61), a timestamp associated with the network message (Col. 66, lines 7-10), and a summary of the body of the network message (Col. 138, lines 38-43).

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12. As per claim 14, Reed teaches the method of claim 1, further comprising, downloading the at least one network message to a client (Col. 61, lines 32-37; Col. 71, lines 9-16).

13. As per claim 15, Reed teaches the method of claim 1, further comprising:  
when a user selects a notification message, retrieving a network address of a nonclient computer associated with the user (Col. 80, lines 2-54); and  
forwarding the corresponding at least one network message to the nonclient computer (Col. 79, lines 54-67; Col. 80, lines 1-54).

14. As per claim 16, Reed teaches the method of claim 15, wherein the nonclient computer is at least one of a pager, a PDA, a wireless telephone, a WAP, and an SMS device (Col. 1, lines 28-32).

15. Claims 17-19 do not teach or define any new limitations above claims 1-3 and therefore are rejected for similar reasons.

16. Claims 25-29 do not teach or define any new limitations above claims 10-16 and therefore are rejected for similar reasons.

17. Claims 30-32 do not teach or define any new limitations above claims 1-3 and therefore are rejected for similar reasons.

18. Claims 38-42 do not teach or define any new limitations above claims 10-16 and therefore are rejected for similar reasons.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

19. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

20. Claims 5-9, 12, 20-24 and 33-37 are rejected under U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reed, in view of Larsen et al. (hereinafter Larsen), US 6,097,703, and in further view of Godoroja et al. (hereinafter Godoroja), US 6,032,258.

21. As per claim 5, Reed does not explicitly teach the method of claim 1, wherein first and second sets of network messages are associated with a client, the first and second sets of network messages are mutually exclusive, each message in the first and second sets of network messages have a corresponding predetermined expiration time, each message in the first set of network messages have a common first expiration time, each message in the second set of network messages have a common second expiration time, and the first and second expiration times are different.

22. Larsen teaches a method wherein first and second sets of network messages are associated with a client, the first and second sets of network messages are mutually exclusive (Col. 9, lines 39-48; Col. 17, lines 33-39), each message in the first and second sets of network messages have a corresponding predetermined expiration time (Col. 21, lines 12-21), each message in the first set of network messages have a common first expiration time, each message in the second set of network messages

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have a common second expiration time, and the first and second expiration times are different (Col. 18, lines 10-32; Col. 21, lines 12-21).

23. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Larsen and Reed because they both deal with transmitting data/information between originating and destination points over a communications network. Furthermore, the teaching of Larsen to allow wherein first and second sets of network messages are associated with a client, the first and second sets of network messages are mutually exclusive, each message in the first and second sets of network messages have a corresponding predetermined expiration time, each message in the first set of network messages have a common first expiration time, each message in the second set of network messages have a common second expiration time, and the first and second expiration times are different would improve Reed's system by compensating for interference and fading, and freeing up the transmission lines by preventing the clogging of the network with old data.

24. As per claim 6, Reed does not explicitly teach the method of claim 5, wherein at least some of the expiration times in the first and/or second sets of network messages are set by a source of the at least one network message.

25. Larsen teaches a method wherein at least some of the expiration times in the first and/or second sets of network messages are set by a source of the at least one network message (Col. 14, lines 1-10; Col. 19, lines 1-8; Col. 21, lines 11-21).

26. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Larsen and Reed because they both deal with



transmitting data/information between originating and destination points over a communications network. Furthermore, the teaching of Larsen to allow wherein at least some of the expiration times in the first and/or second sets of network messages are set by a source of the at least one network message would improve the functionality of Reed's system by preventing clogging of the network so that messages do not travel in a closed loop or sit idle waiting for transmission and have a deadline determined by its source based upon its relevance.

27. As per claim 7, Reed does not explicitly teach the method of claim 6, wherein the at least some of the expiration times are in the "X" fields of the network messages corresponding to the messages in the first and/or second sets of network messages.

28. Larsen teaches a method wherein expiration times are corresponding to messages in the first set and/or second sets of network messages (Col. 9, lines 39-48; Col. 17, lines 33-39; Col. 18, lines 10-32; Col. 21, lines 12-21).

29. Larsen does not teach a method wherein the expiration times are in the "X" fields of the network messages.

30. Godoroja teaches a method wherein times are in the "X" fields of the network messages (Col. 2, lines 15-23).

31. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Godoroja, Larsen and Reed because each deal with transmitting messages over a communications network and ensuring message delivery. Furthermore, the teaching of Godoroja to allow wherein times are in the "X" fields of the network messages and the teaching of Larsen to allow wherein expiration

times are corresponding to messages in the first set and/or second sets of network messages would improve the functionality of Reed's system by allowing for increased security and transmission verification pertaining to the comparison of the time stored in the messages' header to that of an predetermined expiration time while prevention of clogging the network with old data remains evident through a predetermined window of acceptable transmission time.

32. As per claim 8, Reed does not explicitly teach the method of claim 5, further comprising:

comparing the first expiration time of a network message in the first set of network messages with an actual age of the corresponding network message; and

when the expiration time of the network message at least one of equals and exceeds the actual age, removing the corresponding network message from the first set of messages for all recipients for the corresponding network message.

33. Larsen teaches a method further comprising:

comparing the first expiration time of a network message in the first set of network messages with an actual age of the corresponding network message (Col. 2, lines 3-11); and

when the expiration time of the network message at least one of equals and exceeds the actual age, removing the corresponding network message from the first set of messages (Col. 2, lines 8-11).

34. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Larsen and Reed because they both deal with

transmitting messages between originating and destination points over a communications network. Furthermore, the teaching of Larsen to allow comparing the first expiration time of a network message in the first set of network messages with an actual age of the corresponding network message; and when the expiration time of the network message at least one of equals and exceeds the actual age, removing the corresponding network message from the first set of messages would improve the functionality of Reed's system by preserving node processing capacity and capability for otherwise valid message transmission and retransmission.

35. As per claim 9, Reed does not explicitly teach the method of claim 5, further comprising a third set of network messages corresponding to the client, wherein each message in the third set of network messages has no predetermined expiration time associated therewith.

36. Larsen teaches a method further comprising a third set of network messages corresponding to the client, wherein each message in the third set of network messages has no predetermined expiration time associated therewith (Col. 7, lines 33-67; Col. 8, lines 1-8).

37. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Larsen and Reed because they both deal with transmitting messages between originating and destination points over a communications network. Furthermore, the teaching of Larsen to allow a third set of network messages corresponding to the client, wherein each message in the third set of network messages has no predetermined expiration time associated therewith would improve the functionality

and reliability of Reed's system by allowing for opportunities to locate and communicate with other nodes to avoid an aborted or failed transmission based upon a faulty destination when other destinations are valid.

38. As per claim 12, Reed does not explicitly teach the method of claim 1, wherein the at least one network message comprises at least one packet.

39. Larsen teaches a method wherein the at least one network message comprises at least one packet (Col. 19; lines 48-53).

40. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Larsen and Reed because they both deal with transmitting messages between originating and destination points over a communications network. Furthermore, the teaching of Larsen to allow wherein the at least one network message comprises at least one packet would improve the functionality and efficiency of Reed's system by dividing up the messages into efficient sizes for optimizing speed of transmission between origin and destination over the network.

41. Claims 20-24 do not teach or define any new limitations above claims 5-9 and therefore are rejected for similar reasons.

42. Claims 33-37 do not teach or define any new limitations above claims 5-9 and therefore are rejected for similar reasons.

***Conclusion***

43. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following patents and publications are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to "Assisted Messaging For Corporate Email Systems".

- |      |              |                     |
|------|--------------|---------------------|
| i.   | US 6,134,582 | Kennedy, Kevin Alan |
| ii.  | US 5,809,242 | Shaw et al.         |
| iii. | US 6,108,688 | Nielsen, Jakob      |

44. A shortened statutory period for reply to this Office action is set to expire in THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action.

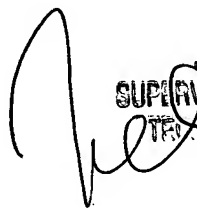
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nicholas Martin whose telephone number is (571) 272-3970. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John A. Follansbee can be reached on (571) 272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-3970.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

nam  
April 13, 2005

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